

Appl. No. 09/902,277

REMARKS

Claims 33-37 are pending in the application. Claim 36 is amended. A clean copy of the pending claims is provided herewith. Applicant apologizes for any confusion regarding claim numbering which may have arisen as a result of the preliminary amendment. Applicant's supplemental preliminary amendment was intended to correct any confusion regarding claim numbering. It is noted that the ~~correct numbering of the claims is 33-37. The supplemental preliminary amendment canceled claims 1-32 of the parent application and added new claims 33-37, therefore, only claims 33-37 should be pending. In order to avoid any further confusion regarding claim numbering, please utilize the clean copy of pending claims 33-37 provided herewith, and cancel all previous versions of any pending claim.~~

For the sake of clarity, Applicant also notes that two identical office actions have been received regarding this application. A first office action dated December 4, 2001 (which was incorrectly addressed) and a second office action dated January 18, 2002. Because each of these office actions are identical, this response is considered responsive to both office actions.

Claims 33-37 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,767,558 to Lo et al. Applicant requests reconsideration.

MPEP 706.02(b)(C) provides that a rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 102(b) can be overcome by perfecting priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) or 120 by amending the specification of the application to contain a specific reference to a prior application or by filing an application data sheet under 37 CFR 1.76

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which contains a specific reference to a prior application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.78(a).

Applicant's preliminary amendment, amended the specification to contain a specific reference to a prior application, and thereby perfected priority under 35 U.S.C. 120. The preliminary amendment amended the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the "Technical Field" Section. "This ~~patent is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/837,645~~ which was filed on April 17, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,238,957, issued on May 29, 2001, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,001,675, issued on December 14, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,665,611, which was issued on September 9, 1997."

Because U.S. Patent No. 5,665,611 from which this continuation claims priority has a priority filing date of January 31, 1996, U.S. Patent 5,767,558 to Lo et al. is not prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the 102(b) rejection be withdrawn, and that claims 33-37 be allowed in the Examiner's next action.

This application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance, and action to that end is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the numbering of the pending claims, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview prior to issuance of any subsequent action so that any questions regarding claim numbering can be resolved.

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Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2/7/02

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Application Serial No. 09/902,277
Filing Date July 9, 2001
Inventor Sandhu et al.
Assignee Micron Technology, Inc.
Group Art Unit 2813
Examiner Laura M. Schillinger
Attorney's Docket No. MI22-1780
Title: Method of Forming a Thin Film Transistor

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE ACCOMPANYING
RESPONSE TO JANUARY 18, 2002 OFFICE ACTION**

In the Claims

The claims have been amended as follows. Underlines indicate insertions
and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.

36. (Amended) The method of claim ~~33~~35 further comprising, after the
transferring fluorine, removing the sacrificial layer from over the thin film transistor
layer.

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